

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 29-33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41-45, 48, 50-52, 54-58, 60, 61, 63-76, 78-99, 102, 104, and 105 are pending, with claims 29, 44, 45, 52, 102, and 104 in independent form. Claims 1-28, 34, 37, 40, 46, 47, 49, 53, 59, 62, 77, 79, 100, 101, 103, and 106-109 are canceled.

Objections

The Examiner objected to canceled claim 79 because it contained text. Applicants have deleted the text.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 29-33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41-45, 48, 50-52, 54-58, 60, 61, 63-76, 78-99, 102, 104, and 105 under 35 U.S.C. §112 for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner states on page 2 of the office action that:

Claims 29, 44, 45, 52, 102, and 104, it is unclear how the thermoplastic bonding component being bonded to the surface of piezoelectric element can also include a filter and function as one. Fig. 3 shows the thermoplastic bonding component (90) to be bonded to a surface of a piezoelectric element (34, 34'). However, since the thermoplastic bonding component is bonded to the surface, it is not possible for it to function as a filter since the bonded surface of piezoelectric element would prevent the flow of fluid to flow to the other side (bonded) side of the thermoplastic filter (Fig. 3).

Applicants refer the Examiner to FIG. 2, which shows a piezoelectric element 34 that bonds to the thermoplastic bonding component 30, which bonds to the body 20. The piezoelectric element 34 is smaller than the thermoplastic bonding component 30 and only contacts a portion of the component 30, thus leaving an area not bonded to the piezoelectric

element 34. This non-bonded area can function as a filter. The fluid can freely flow through the body 20 and through the filter in the non-bonded area of component 30.

Applicants submit that the specification would enable a person of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention as recited in claims 29-33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41-45, 48, 50-52, 54-58, 60, 61, 63-76, 78-99, 102, 104, and 105. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Please apply any other charges, not covered, or credits to deposit account 06-1050 referencing Attorney Docket Number 09991-014001.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____

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